

Lady Pilots Headed for Torrance Airport

Torrance

Press-Herald

Published semi-weekly Wednesday and Sunday by King Williams Press, Inc. Entered as second class matter January 30, 1914, at Post Office, Torrance, California, Under act of March 3, 1879

TO CALL US

Circulation Office DA 5-1515
Advertising DA 5-6060
Women's News DA 5-6380
News Department DA 5-6060

INSIDE TODAY

Ann LandersA-5 ObituariesA-2
Count MarcoA-5 SportsA-6
CrosswordA-5 Women's NewsB-1
EditorialsA-4 Want AdsB-4

Series II, Volume II, No. 111



2328 Sepulveda Blvd., Torrance, California - Sunday, July 9, 1967

10c Per Copy By Carrier 50c Per Month By Mail, \$18 per Year

16 PAGES



AWAITS ARRIVAL . . . Jack Egan (at right), manager of the Torrance Municipal Airport, points out direction which women pilots will take when they begin landing here Tuesday at the conclusion of the All-Women's Transcontinental Air Race—the Powder Puff Derby. With Egan are (from left) Ken Miller, a Torrance councilman and member of the City Council's airport committee; Bob Reje, co-host of the Chamber of Commerce welcoming committee; Lee Title, co-chairman of the derby's terminus committee; and Bob Vroman, co-host of the Chamber committee. Contestants are expected to end the race, which began yesterday in Atlantic City, N. J., by sunset Tuesday. (Press-Herald Photo)

Aircraft Due Here By Sunset Tuesday

BULLETIN

Start of the Powder Puff Derby was delayed until this morning because of bad weather in Atlantic City, N.J. The delay was announced late yesterday afternoon.

Some 142 women pilots left Atlantic City, N.J., yesterday headed for the Torrance Municipal Airport as the 1967 Powder Puff Derby got under way.

The lady pilots are due here by sunset Tuesday.

The largest number of entries in the annual event comes from California, which has 24 planes and 40 pilots. There are 16 foreign pilots. In all, 26 states and 7 foreign nations are represented in the race.

OFFICIALLY known as the All Woman Transcontinental Air Race, the Powder Puff

Derby began at 9 a.m. eastern time yesterday. Winners will share \$3,000 in prize money.

Not since 1958 has the derby been started on the East Coast. Pilots must fly against the prevailing winds as the usual course has been reversed.

Among the 142 pilots and co-pilots are three from the Torrance area.

MRS. JUDY Wagner, a Palos Verdes Estates resident, will fly her Beechcraft K-38 aircraft alone, while Mary Pinkney of Torrance and Pert Avis of San Pedro will share pilot duties in a Mooney M-20E airplane.

Mrs. Pinkney, of 361 Paseo de Gracia, active in the Long Beach chapter of the Ninety-Nines, Inc., is flying in her second Powder Puff Derby. She flew as co-pilot of the fifth place winner in

the 1960 race. She also is the impound chairman for the race terminus committee at the Torrance airport.

MISS AVIS, a Torrance teacher who won her wings in May, 1966, is competing in her first Powder Puff Derby.

A round of special events honoring the lady pilots has been scheduled in the Southland, beginning with an "early bird" luncheon Tuesday at noon. Headquarters and a hospitality room for the derby are located at the Flush Horse Inn in Redondo Beach.

Two Area Banks Hit by Gunmen; \$3,400 Taken

Beasley Loses Seat on Local Agency Group

Torrance Councilman J. A. Beasley lost a bid Thursday evening to be re-elected as an alternate member of the county's Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFC).

Beasley has sat as an alternate member of the group since its formation. The Torrance councilman was unseated by Oscar Yeager, mayor of Covina, who was nominated from the floor. Beasley had been nominated for re-election by the executive committee of mayors.

THE COMMISSION was organized in 1964 under state

Youngster Doing Well After Crash

A 3-year-old girl who was hit by a car July 4 was reported in satisfactory condition Friday at Harbor General Hospital.

Diane Walls, 1344 W. 225th St., was struck by a car as she entered 225th Street at mid-block at approximately 6:30 p.m., police reported.

Driver of the auto, Thomas Hanna, 23313 Catskill St., Wilmington, was not held by police.

The girl was treated for cuts and bruises and detained at the hospital because of a possible concussion, it was reported.

Hospital authorities said the girl is doing "very well."



ROBERT G. DUNN
Police Sergeant

New Police Sergeant Appointed

Promotion of Torrance Police Officer Robert G. Dunn to the rank of sergeant has been announced by Walter R. Koenig, chief of police.

Sergeant Dunn is being assigned to the patrol division of the Field Services Bureau, Chief Koenig said.

A native Californian, Sergeant Dunn was born in San Diego and was raised in the Torrance and Lomita areas. He is a veteran of the Air Force and served from 1949 until 1952.

HE WAS employed by the Douglas Aircraft Co. before he joined the Torrance Police Department, but served as a member of the city's Police Reserve. He is a graduate of the Los Angeles Sheriff's Academy and has studied at El Camino and East Los Angeles City College.

Sergeant Dunn is active in Little League and has served as a director and as vice president of the Torrance Police Officers' Association.

He and his wife, Patricia, are parents of five children. They are Robert Jr., 15; Jonathan, 13; Alice, 12; Steve, 8; and Jeff, 4.

Aircraft Equipment Missing

Theft of auto stereos and radios have become a common occurrence but police are now seeking the thieves of radio and navigational equipment taken from an aircraft at Torrance Municipal Airport Thursday.

The equipment, valued at \$1,245, was reported missing by Dean Degonia, 2920 Delemead St., from his Cessna 150 parked in a hanger at the airport. Included in the items taken was a \$500 two-way radio and directional equipment.

Although no other planes were disturbed in the area, police reported that none of the planes had been locked.

Thieves apparently used hand tools in removing the valuable equipment.

Torrance Bank Hit for \$2,700

Two men demanded money of bank tellers in two separate South Bay robberies Friday and escaped with a total of \$3,495.

The First Western Bank, 23865 Hawthorne Blvd., was hit for \$2,781 shortly after opening when a man with a limp forced teller Joan Ault to hand over the money in a plastic bag.

Torrance Police Lt. Robert Wright reported that the man handed a note stating, "Put all money in bag, be cool, or be dead," to the teller as she opened her booth.

AFTER getting money from one drawer, the man demanded that currency from another drawer to be added to his loot.

The suspect was described by witnesses as wearing a dark suit and hat.

As the robber left the bank, a witness followed the man into a parking lot but was stopped when the man threatened him with a 6-inch revolver.

THE WITNESS told police that the suspect ordered him to "stay back" after pulling the revolver "with some difficulty."

Another witness in the parking lot said the man got into a red sports car and fled.

Program Set On Narcotics

The Rev. Hal Grover of the Narcotic Educational Foundation of America will discuss the problem of narcotics at the monthly Family Night program tonight at Ascension Lutheran Church, 17910 S. Prairie Ave.

The program is scheduled for 7 p.m. and will include the showing of a 20-minute film, "Narcotics: A Challenge." It is sponsored by the church youth organization.

toward 238th Street and Los Cadona Avenue.

LATER IN the day, the United California Bank, 14708 S. Crenshaw Blvd., Gardena, was held up by a man about 20 years old who escaped with \$714.

Gardena police said the youth also presented a note demanding money to a teller and warned that he had a gun. The 5:30 p.m. robbery took place while approximately 50 patrons were in the bank.

\$150,000 For Beach In Budget

Capital News Service SACRAMENTO — The new \$5 billion state budget signed into law by Gov. Ronald Reagan for fiscal 1967-68 includes \$9.5 million in grants to 24 counties for 55 local park and recreation projects.

Included in some \$1,457,050 earmarked for Los Angeles County is \$150,000 for acquisition of the South Torrance Beach.

Other Los Angeles County projects include \$239,000 for 79 acres of Otterbein Regional Park; \$900,000 to develop 306 acres of Rose Hills Regional Park; \$48,050 for acquisition of 80 acres in Monrovia Canyon; and \$120,000 for the development of 20 acres of parking for Santa Monica State Beach.

THE MONEY comes from the \$40 million and \$150 million beach and park bond issue of 1964 which was reserved for local grants. The grants are intended to be used for day-use areas, near metropolitan centers, although all counties are eligible for some funds.

Former Fireman Held for Arson

Preliminary hearing has been scheduled Tuesday for a man charged with arson and burglary of a Torrance home July 2.

Bail was set at \$55,000 for Thomas Fairbanks, 39, of 2315 Manhattan Beach Blvd., Gardena, during arraignment proceedings Thursday. A Fairbanks was arraigned before Judge George R. Perkoich in South Bay Municipal Court.

Fairbanks, whom police identified as a former county fireman, was arrested by Torrance police last Monday for allegedly throwing gasoline on the furnishings in the home of Beverly Austin at 2310 W. 190th St. and setting fires.

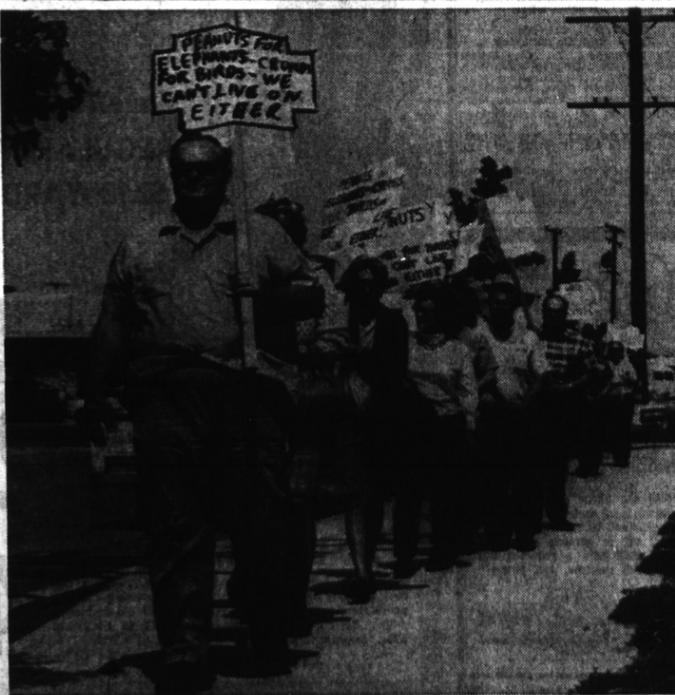
MISS AUSTIN, 33, was not at home when the fires were touched off, police said. She said she had been staying with neighbors because of

her fear of Fairbanks. Police reported that a man entered the home by kicking out a door in the rear of the residence early June 2. A gas can also was found in the home by investigators.

Firemen called to the scene extinguished fires in the living room and bedroom. A neighbor who had crawled through the house in search of occupants was treated for smoke inhalation.

FAIRBANKS was taken into custody by police after witnesses gave police a description of a man seen leaving the residence just before the fires broke out.

Police said Fairbanks has filed a plea of innocent in Superior Court to charges that he broke into Miss Austin's home June 1 to attack her and that he fired a gun at her as she was riding in a taxicab last May 10.



FOR PAY HIKE . . . Employees of the Torrance Post Office march in a "picket" line before the main post office, 2510 Monterey St., in a demonstration for increased salary and benefits. D. John Barry, president of the State Postal Union and a member of the Torrance local, said employees were demonstrating on their day off. The group is not on strike, he said. "We merely want to get the public to realize that an increase in postal workers' paychecks is, in our opinion, one of the best ways of continuing the betterment of postal service." Barry said the public can support the postal workers' position by writing to their representatives in Congress. (Press-Herald Photo)

Bids for Drain Opened

Apparent low bids of \$558,904, \$618,302, and \$648,976 have been received for construction of three major storm drain projects in the vicinity of the Torrance civic center. The low bids were submitted by a Baldwin Park construction firm, according to Supervisor Burton W. Chace. Award of a contract is expected to be completed in about 10 days and construction—which will take about a year—is due to begin three weeks later. The three projects involve about four miles of storm drains.

Mail Trucks To Be Sold

Some 40 Post Office Mailster-type vehicles will be sold next Saturday morning at the Torrance Post Office, 2510 Monterey St., according to Postmaster Carl L. Backlund. The vehicles, three-wheel, one-passenger trucks, will sell for \$125 to \$150 on a first come, first served basis. Only cash or money orders will be accepted for payment and the vehicles may be driven away on purchase. The sale will be conducted between 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Pilot Is Fourth Victim

Richard Schillings, pilot of a light plane which crashed last Monday near Main and 211th Streets in the Carson area, died Thursday at Harbor General Hospital. His death was the fourth in connection with the crash. All three passengers on the craft, Herbert N. Johnson, 32; his wife, Catherine, 22; and their son, James, 6, died in the burning wreckage Monday. Schillings, 34, of Los Angeles, died about 7 a.m. Thursday, it was reported.